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Application No. 10/743,712
Amendment dated July 18, 2006
Reply to Office Action of April 18, 2006

- REMARKS/ARGUMENTS -

Claims 1 to 33 are pending in the application.

Claims 20 to 33 remain withdrawn from consideration.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. 112

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1 to 19 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as lacking proper support for "the radially outward fuel flow from the fuel outlet".

The objected features have been removed from the claims, but Applicant contends that the radially outward flow feature is supported by at least Figure 5 as filed.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1, 2, 5, 7 and 15 to 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Blakely et al. (U.S. Patent No. 3,337,135).

Reconsideration is expected on the following grounds.

Blakely et al.'s fuel flow is not injected into the air with any swirl. Blakely et al.'s fuel feed holes 26 and 28 extend through the cylindrical section 18 and are aligned in a direction perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the nozzle (see column 1, lines 43 to 47 and Figures 1 to 3). Blakely et al. radially oriented holes 26 and 28 destroy the swirl momentum developed in passages 42 and 44. This is contrary to the present invention. In view of the foregoing, independent Claims 1 and 15 and the claims depending thereon are clearly patentable over Blakely et al.

Claims 15 to 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Farago et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,067,655).

As recognized by the Examiner himself under Item 13 of the Office Action, Farago et al.'s channel 42 does not extend along more than half a complete turn. This is contrary to the present invention as recited in Claim 15. Accordingly, reconsideration of the 102 rejection is respectfully requested.

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Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1 to 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of Lemon et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,423,173) in view of Blakely et al. and optionally Farago et al.

The Examiner has also rejected Claims 1 to 19 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kostka (U.S. Patent No. 6,247,317) in view of Blakely et al. and optionally Farago et al.

Lemon and Kostka do not cure the deficiencies of the primary references. In view of the arguments presented above with regard to Blakely et al. and Farago et al., Applicant argues that the combinations suggested by the Examiner do not teach all the elements of Claims 1 to 19 of the present application.

In view of the foregoing, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early action to this effect would be much appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

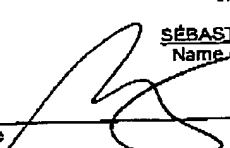
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By:

July 18, 2006

Date

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